

## THE STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Takashi HIROKAWA et al.

Title:

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL WATER DISPERSIBLE

**GRANULE** 

Appl. No.:

10/543,039

International

1/21/2004

Filing Date:

371(c) Date:

2/14/06

Examiner:

Mei Ping CHUI

Art Unit:

1616

Conf. No.:

7330

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

### **TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114.

#### RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding European application. A copy of the Supplementary European Search Report is attached as Document E4 setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language abstract of the foreign-language documents has been provided (Documents E1 and E2). The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609).

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

#### **STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.704(d) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Ву

Respectfully submitted,

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